

Shorelines and Critical Areas Public Workshop and Expert Panel

Notes from the Flip Chart

30 September 2004

The discussion moderator took notes on the main points and questions raised during the discussion. The notes have been transcribed below.

1. Mitigation – look to see how well it works. 80% failure in wetland mitigation. Design and specifications are very important.
2. Consequences of failure: County – 5 years of monitoring, Ecology – requires to correct in high.
3. How can Ecology assure success of regulations and mitigation?
4. Mitigation banking – should/could be considered.
5. Agricultural wetlands – drainage maintenance – can this be consistent with CAO?
6. Farm plans – conservation
7. Adjudication – provisions seem to be missing. Want formal adjudication process instead of lawsuits.
8. Critical shellfish areas/habitat – includes watershed contribution to pollution.
9. Buffers – will they increase? Are buffers part of the critical area?
10. Wetlands research – protection of isolated wetlands
11. Stormwater & wetlands – is there research available on the affect on wetlands?
12. What are Ecology guidelines?
13. SMP – what is the definition of “scientific information”?
14. How can we assure rationality and predictability?
15. Buffers – when will the County inform the public? What opportunities will exist for input?
16. Will Whatcom County adopt Federal regulations?
17. Why the height difference? Where did that law requirement come from?
18. How will integration really occur? How to achieve no-net-loss and restoration?
19. Geologically hazardous areas – buffers? Vegetation management?
20. Definition of isolated wetlands?